



TESTIMONY BY:

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#### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 3, 2022 3:00 P.M. State Capitol, Teleconference

### S.B. 2275 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 2275, which makes permanent the motor vehicle insurance requirements for transportation network companies and transportation network company drivers.

The DOT believes that motor vehicle insurance requirements will help protect all roadway users involved in a motor vehicle crash.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



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Alison H. Ueoka President

## **TESTIMONY OF ALISON UEOKA**

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION Senator Chris Lee, Chair Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

> Thursday, February 3, 2022 3:00 p.m.

# <u>SB 2275</u>

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committee on Transportation, my name is Alison Ueoka, President of the Hawaii Insurers Council. The Hawaii Insurers Council is a non-profit trade association of property and casualty insurance companies licensed to do business in Hawaii. Member companies underwrite approximately forty percent of all property and casualty insurance premiums in the state.

Hawaii Insurers Council **supports** this bill that makes insurance requirements permanent for Transportation Network Companies. We believe the insurance section of the law that has been in place for more than five years has worked well and it is appropriate to lift the sunset date.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

### TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU ON BEHALF OF UBER TECHNOLOGIES IN SUPPORT OF S.B. No. 2275

February 3, 2022

 To: Chairman Chris Lee and Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation: My name is Bob Toyofuku and I am presenting this testimony on behalf of Uber
Technologies ("Uber") in support of S.B. No. 2275 Relating to Transportation Network
Companies.

Uber is a Transportation Network Company that has been operating in Hawaii for several years. Uber previously supported the insurance bill that was passed in 2016 and signed as Act 236. It supports making the provisions of Act 236 permanent as provided in this bill.

Also, in S.B. 2542 which is part of this agenda, where Uber is seeking statewide regulation, it has included a provision to make the insurance provision of Act 236 permanent and is therefore part of that bill. We urge this committee to pass S.B. 2542 which incorporates the provisions contained in this bill.

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony.

### WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF SAM CHO OF LYFT

SB 2542 & SB2275 Relating to Transportation Network Companies Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection February 3, 2022 3:00pm.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Committee Members,

My name is Sam Cho, and I am a Public Policy Manager for Lyft, responsible for Lyft's policy and government relations in Hawaii. Lyft supports both Senate Bill 2542 and Senate Bill 2275, which creates a statewide regulatory framework and insurance framework respectively for rideshare companies that will allow Lyft to expand throughout the state and permanently remove the sunset provision from the TNC insurance statute.

Lyft was founded in 2012 with the mission of reconnecting communities through better transportation and making our cities more livable. Lyft is an online platform that connects people with efficient, friendly and reliable drivers in their community. At a basic level, Lyft was created as an alternative to personal car ownership, and we make it easier for people to offer their neighbors a ride and carpool more efficiently.

In Oahu, Lyft has been operating since June 2014, and on Big Island, Maui, and Kauai since March 2017. Lyft's availability enhances transportation options for locals and tourists alike as we operate at airports and harbors across the four islands. As of this year, 46 states across the country have passed statewide rideshare legislation, like SB 2542, that regulates transportation network companies ("TNCs") through a uniform framework. Vermont and Louisiana were the 45th and 46th states, respectively, to pass such legislation. We support SB 2542 in hopes that Hawaii can become the 47th state to pass comprehensive TNC legislation. Similarly, Senate Bill 2275 would take the current insurance provisions and make them permanent across the state.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Lyft has been instrumental in helping locals access work, medical appointments, and other essential services. Across the islands, Lyft has partnered with with a dozen organizations, such as Hawaii Food Bank, U.S. Vets Hawaii, Hale Kipa, Lunalilo Home and Hauoli Homecare on Oahu, Kauai Adult Health Center, and Na Hoaloha on Maui, to support essential travel, including rides for survivors seeking shelter, kūpuna accessing grocery stores and medical appointments, and individuals looking for work opportunities.

We are proud that Lyft is more than just a transportation network company-- during a challenging year when workplaces have shuttered or scaled back employee hours, Lyft has provided a unique and flexible economic opportunity that allows anyone with a car to be an entrepreneur who can set a schedule according to their terms. In fact, 97% of drivers on the Lyft platform in Hawaii drive fewer than 20 hours per week. The Lyft driver community is made up of retirees, single parents, students, folks trying to get around, and families looking to earn extra income. In Hawaii, drivers span a diverse cross-section of the community-- 42% of drivers are over the age of 50, 17% are veterans, 16% identify as female, 15% are retired, and 26% speak

a language other than English at home. Further, Lyft supports first-/last mile solutions to help fill transit gaps -- 46% of rides start or end in low-income areas and 23% of riders have used the Lyft platform to access healthcare services.

Along with these community and economic benefits, we believe that Lyft is contributing to a more sustainable Hawaii. In fact, 42% of riders have used a Lyft service to get to or from public transit, and 43% of riders who have access to a personal car use that car less because of Lyft. By taking a Lyft instead of driving their cars, Hawaiians are not just saving time, they are reducing congestion, freeing up parking, making more efficient use of existing roads, and supporting sustainable transportation infrastructure.

Statewide legislation is a path towards providing consumers, drivers and visitors a consistent experience with Lyft across islands. Through SB 2542 and SB 2275, we urge this committee to support establishing this comprehensive regulatory and insurance structure that can be applied to all ridesharing companies regardless of size and cities of operation to ensure that responsible, reliable, and affordable rides are available for all in Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration of Lyft's testimony in support of SB 2542 and SB 2275.